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Docket No. GJE-78
Serial No. 09/937,784Remarks

Claims 7-20 and 22 were pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, claims 7 and 14 have been amended and claims 13 and 20 have been cancelled. The undersigned avers that no new matter is introduced by this amendment. Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of the applicant's agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position. Accordingly, claims 7-12, 14-19, and 22 are currently before the Examiner for consideration. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

A Notice of Appeal was submitted to the Patent Office on February 5, 2007.

Claims 13 and 20 have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. As recommended by the Examiner, the applicant has amended independent claims 7 and 14 to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claims 13 and 20, respectively. Claims 13 and 20 have been cancelled. These amendments obviate the basis of the objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) and place the rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.116. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, the applicant believes that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

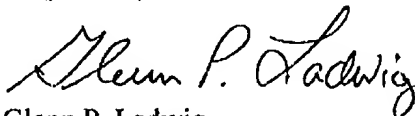
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account 19-0065.

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The applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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